1	2	3	4
Sikkim	12.00	12.00	12.00
Tamil Nadu	8.00	8.00	8.00
Tripura	12.00	12.00	12.00
Uttaranchal	10.00	10.00	10.00
Uttar Pradesh	10.00	10.00	10.00
West Bengal	17.00	17.00	17.00

Development of Durga Hatkoti temple in H.P.

†*638. SHRI ANIL SHARMA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount proposed to be sanctioned by Government to Himachal Pradesh for encouraging tourism during the year 2003-2004;

(b) whether Government have any scheme to make the Durga Hatkoti temple, which is important from the tourism point of view and where lakhs of devotees come for 'Darshan', more attractive; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by Government for the convenience of the tourists ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN) : (a) During 2003-04, no project has been sanctioned in Himachal Pradesh as yet. However, during financial year 2002-03, 30 projects were sanctioned for Rs.779.32 lakhs for the State of Himachal Pradesh.

(b) There is no such proposal at present in the Department of Tourism.

(c) Development of tourist infrastructure is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Department of Tourism, Government of India, however, provides financial assistance for Integrated Development of Tourism Circuits, Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development Projects and Large Revenue generating projects identified in consultation with them.

Licence to photographers at Taj Mahal

*639. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the procedure for issuing licences to photographers at Taj Mahal has recently been streamlined and liberalised following allegations of favouritism and malpractices; and

(b) if so, the present guidelines in this regard with details of allegations ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The new guidelines have been formulated *w.e.f.* 1st January, 2003 as per enclosed Statement (*See* below) 257 photographers have been issued photographic licences in February, 2003 for a period of 3 years in accordance with new guidelines.

Statement

Guidelines formulated for issue of licences to photographers for the centrally protected monuments at Agra including Taj Mahal, Agra Fort, Fatehpur Sikri etc.

1. Any photographer who is a citizen of India and not below 18 years of age and possesses the requisite skill and expertise to operate a still camera shall be eligible to apply for a licence for photography. The applicant for licence need not necessarily own a studio.
2. No applicant shall be eligible to submit more than one application.
3. If the applicant for licence is a firm/company/registered society, the application should be signed by the person duly authorised to do so by the firm/company/registered society as the case may be.
4. The applications received for licences shall be scrutinised by a committee headed by the Additional Director General, Archaeological Survey of India, who may recommend issuance of licence or otherwise to Director General, Archaeological Survey of India, whose decision in this regard shall be final.
5. Any person selected for issue of licence shall have to pay a non-refundable licence fee of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees five thousand only) by way of demand draft in favour of the Director General, Archaeological Survey of India to be deposited with the Agra Circle, Agra.
6. The applicant shall be required to submit alongwith his application proof of his age.
7. On receipt of the prescribed licence fee, the Superintending Archaeologist, Archaeological Survey of India, Agra Circle, shall issue the requisite licence

which shall be for a period of 3 years to the concerned applicant alongwith a photo identity card with an appropriate hologram.

8. The licence shall be non transferable. It shall be renewable on payment of a licence fee of Rs.5,000/- in the same manner as prescribed for issue of fresh licence, if there has been no violation of the terms and conditions of the licence and is considered fit for renewal by the Superintending Archaeologist, Agra Circle.

9. The licensee will limit his photography operations to the monument for which the licence has been issued.

10. The licensee shall display his identity card prominently while operating within the precincts of the monuments and shall be dressed neatly and will observe etiquette and courtesy at all time to all visitors. He should also present his licence for inspection on demand by the officers of the Archaeological Survey of India.

11. The issue of licences shall be without prejudice to the rights of the tourists and visitors to use their own cameras and take photographs within the monuments.

12. The licensee shall not charge from the visitors, a price for photography, which is more than that fixed by the Superintending Archaeologist, Agra Circle. The licensee shall keep with him a chart of the approved rates duly signed by the Superintending Archaeologist, Agra Circle and shall ensure that the photographs are delivered to his clients within a reasonable time which shall not exceed 5 days.

13. The licensee will give a printed receipt to the clients for the money received by him in advance for delivering the photographs at the assigned place.

14. If complaints are received against the licensee, the Superintending Archaeologist, Agra Circle, shall issue a warning on the first occasion and a second complaint shall result in cancellation of the licence after a summary enquiry.

15. In the event of the loss of licence, the licensee shall inform the Superintending Archaeologist, Agra Circle, in writing and file an FIR with the police station straight away, and a fresh duplicate licence shall be issued on payment of Rs.250/- as fee.

16. The Director General, reserves the right to amend/modify/withdraw the terms and conditions of the licence.